

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 NSC-05 INR-05 CIAE-00

EB-04 PM-03 DODE-00 SP-02 IGA-01 MCE-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /047 W

-----115819 061929Z /43

R 061157Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9078

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

S E C R E T CAIRO 14756

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US, ET, PINS

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SIAD'S REQUEST FOR US SUPPORT

REF: (A) MOGADISCIO 1469, (B) STATE 212390, (C) CAIRO 13632

(NOTAL)

1. NOTE PRESIDENT SIAD'S REQUEST TO USG TO ASSIST SOMALIA BY ENCOURAGING EGYPT, AMONG OTHERS, TO PROVIDE SOMALIA WITH NON-US ORIGIN ARMS AND SPARE PARTS. BARRING SOME NEW DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAKES IT DESIRABLE REVIEW SITUATION, U RECOMMEND AGAINST ANY FURTHER APPROACH TO SADAT ON ARMS FOR SOMALIA. ANY NEW APPROACH WILL ONLY REVIVE GOE REQUEST FOR SUG SMALL ARMS TO EGYPT TO REPLACE NON-US ORIGIN EGYPTIAN ARMS SENT TO SOMALIA. WE HAVE UP TO NOW BEEN UNWILLING TO TAKE ANY SUCH ACTION. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CHANGE IN OUR POSITION RE PROVIDING EGYPT WITH SMALL  
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ARMS EITHER FOR TRANSFER TO SOMALIA OR TO REPLACE NON-US ORIGIN ARMS SENT TO SOMALIA, ANY SUCH REQUEST WILL ONLY AROUSE SUSPICIONS IN EGYPTIAN MILITARY CIRCLES THAT WE ARE SEEKING TO WEAKEN THE LIMITED EGYPTIAN MILITARY CAPABILITY VIS-A-VIS ISRAEL THROUGH THIS DEVICE.

2. FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT SADAT HAS BEEN AS GENEROUS

WITH ARMS FOR SOMALIA AS HE CAN BE. AS REPORTED REF C, GAMASY IS OPPOSING POSITIVE RESPONSE TO LATEST SOMALI ARMS REQUEST ON GROUNDS EGYPT CANNOT CONTINUE DEplete ITS LIMITED SMALL ARMS AND AMMO INVENTORIES BY SENDING THEM TO SOMALIA, CHAD AND ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA. SIAD BARRE RECENTLY TRANISTED CAIRO, EN ROUTE BACK FROM MOSCOW, AND HE HAD ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY MAKE HIS OWN CASE DIRECTLY TO SADAT. MOREOVER, AS REPORTED ELSEWHERE, ALTHOUGH EGYPTIANS AND SAUDIS CONTINUE TO URGE WIDER ARAB SUPPORT FOR SOMALIA, ARAB LEAGUE FONMINS MEETING NOW ABOUT TO BE CONCLUDED DECLINED TO INVOLVE AL DIRECTLY IN SOMALI/ETHIOPIAN DISPUTE AND INSTEAD URGED PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THAT DISPUTE.

3. SADAT IS OF COURSE AWARE OF USG POSITION ON ARMS FOR SOMALIA.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Reference:** 77 MOGADISCIO 1469, 77 STATE 212390, 77 CAIRO 13632  
**Retention:** 0  
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**TAGS:** PINS, SO, US, ET  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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